THE EXCITER

Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.

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VHF AND UP

50 mc. activity started picking up the latter half of October. Tropo scatter or ducting produced good signals all over south Texas and the Gulf area. On 18 Oct. 59, HC1FS and JW in Quito worked many of the SA gang. They were also heard working W1, 2, 8, 9 at the same time. Signals from both stations were terrific.

European TV sigs near 50 mc. were first heard in New England on 15 Oct. 59. In San Antonio, French TV audio on 41.25 mc. was first heard on 24 Oct. 59 with tremendous strength. BBC audio on 41.5 mc. was not heard. It looks as if 50 mc. will open to Europe for sure. Norwegian and Swedish amateurs still can operate on 50 mc. so these active countries should be well copied in SA. W5VY reports that FF8AP in French Equatorial Africa will be on Six this winter. 50 mc. should be hopping for at least another season before the sunspot number drops too low.

W5UNU reports that the Kerrville area worked New Caldonia on 50 mc. around 14 Oct. 59 at 1600 CST. Anyone have anything further on this one?

The paddlewheel satellite, Explorer VI, went dead on 6 Oct. 59. It was last heard on a direct pass over SA on 5 Oct. by the writer. One of the solar cell paddles supposedly did not completely click into place and this mal-function probably brought on an early demise of the signals on 108 mc. It transmitted for only 2 months instead of the expected year.

On the morning of 23 Oct. 59, Explorer VII was first heard when over Havana on 108.000 mc. A few moments later, Vanguard III came by also on 108.000 mc. and we had what will have to be called "satellite QRM." It doesn't hapepn often right now but in future years we'll have to have satellite VFO's! However, these might also be called UFO's VFO's!

Explorer VII, last of these series, transmits continuously on 19.990 mc. with a good signal. A Bulova solar watch will cut the 20 mc. solar-powered signal off after a year's time. The 108.000 mc. sig, which is ground triggered, should last until December when its batteries will be exhausted. The 19.990 mc. signal is easily identified by the changing bag-pipe tones. Truely heavenly music! Regards,

Cal Graf, W5LFM
207 Addax Drive
DI 4-5032

XMAS PARTY

Plan now to attend the Radio Club Annual Xmas Party on December 5, 1959 at 7:00 p.m. The party will be at Skipper's on Military Drive opposite the entrance to the San Antonio International Airport. Our suave talent scout (George Loos) has been authorized to procure an orchestra for the occasion. Details will be announced in the next issue of the Exciter and at all the wholesale houses. So get your tickets early, for if you remember last years' party, we are going to try to have the same orchestra. The party this year should be even better.

DOOR PRIZES

Those of you who have not attended the meetings recently have simply been missing a good thing. Door prizes, given at each meeting, range from well-known publications to Yagi Antennas. For example, at the last meeting a 4-element 6 meter antenna was considered a choice item. We have been assured of a 2-meter antenna to be given in the near future.

Last meeting, in addition to the 4-element 6 meter antenna given away by Bill Case Records and Sound; Modern Electronics gave two G. E. tube manuals, which were well received, for they were the latest editions.

ALAMO YL

A group of the San Antonio Licensed YLs have expressed the desire to get better acquainted and meet some of the YLs they have talked to on the air and others they have never had an opportunitv to meet.

The first such meting was held in the home of K5PDI Mary. Ladies in attendance were W5IOZ Paula, W5KQG Frances, K5OPS Ethel, K5OPT Ruth, W5TSE Ella, W5WXT Inez, K5YCE Gerry, and KN5TSZ Katherine. A name was chosen by the group and they will be known as the Alamo Ladies Amateur Mirophone Organization or ALAMO YL.

Next meeting will be at the home of K5YCE Gerry, 514 Burkdale, 2 p.m. November 15th. All licensed YLs are encouraged to attend this meeting and any YL interested in getting her licensed is Welcome.

FIELD DAY

What already? No, don't get upset. The fellows are so enthused over the way the San Antonio Radio Club came out in this years' Field Day event, that they have already chosen Theo W50ZQ to be Field Day Chairman for next year. There are going to be a lot of things done next year, that have not been tried in the past to try to put the club in First Place. We made it up to second place this year, so there is only one way to go and that is up. Theo is going to need all the help he can get to put us in First Place, so give him all the help you can when he asks for it. If you are not out working with the bunch, be sure to get on the air and give them a contact on all bands, as we have to beat those W2's this coming year.

S A R C LADIES

There will be no meeting November 6th due to several ladies being out of town and several others meeting deadline with the stork. November 20th meeting wll be an informal get together at the home of Lou Durst 483 Hialeah.

MOBILE

Mobile conditions are getting better now with the cool weather creeping up on us. Mobiles from Corpus and Houston have been giving some of the local QSO's on 75 a lot of QRM.

A lot of the mobiles are getting out on 10 and making some good contacts. That band ought to really be good this winter. The Road Rally was cancelled because of wet weather, and is going to be held on November 8th.

See you Mobile
Gene W5EJT

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Arrangements have been completed to provide future programs on such interesting subjects as Mobile Power Supplies, Analysis of TVI Generated by Transmitters' Low Level Exciter Stages, Tuning Up Mobile Antennas. All programs will consist of actual de-

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'Hank' K5HYF Mgr.

monstrations on equipment, not a blackboard full of theory. Practical demonstrations just seem to go hand in hand with good lectures. So plan now to hear these interesting programs.

GUTTER DOPE

Several of the local Hams went to Eagle Pass the other week-end for a STEN Zone-3 get together. Those attending from San Antonio were W5EJT, K5OPT, W5WXT, W5THU. Some of the Amateurs attending were K5OFR, W5RKI, KN5VSK, W5NXZ and XE2IX. They brought back a fine intertainment report.

Boy, that was some party at Bob Wilson residence a couple weeks ago. It seems as tho the party went well into the night. It has been reported on good authority, that there were some of he guests still arriving long after a lot of them had gone home. They say that Derwin W5LUU wound up as a real fast draw artist.

I wonder what kind of air plane Bob W5OIK is going to buy next week. He has gone two whole weeks without buying one. He must really be stuck on that B-26, or maybe we should say, stuck with it.

I see that George W5LFG has another Thunderbird. (He sure didn't stay sporty very long.)

Ralph W5THU, sure didn't waste any time putting the mobile rig in his new Rambler, did he.

Boy, there sure were a lot of San Antonio stations working the contest on the 25th of last month.

The other day there were a bunch of fellows helping a fellow Ham put up some beams, and someone happened to look up in the sky and say a flight of geese fly by. One of the boys had to be revived, (with artificial resporation yet), as he thought it was another flock of Storks flying in formation. I'm telling you, there are sure a lot o people getting scared to look sky-ward, here lately.

Willard W5FND getting ready for his final bout with the City over his tower situation.

That was too bad about Chuck K5DMK loosing his tower and beam in that little twister that hit his place several weeks ago. Oh well, now he will have more time to spend on TVI Committee work.

There is a new Ham in town Bill K5WOS who expects to be on the air shortly.

We hear that there is a new six meter net started by Army Mars and also one by Air Force Mars, for this area.

Congrads to Ella W5TSE and George W5VPQ as they are the proud parents of a 6 lb. 13 oz. boy named George Randall.

The Christmas party this year sure ought to be a good one. From the talk that is going around, everyone is planning to be there. Are you?

Well John W5CTL has a new 2 meter beam a new 6 meter beam and a new Tri Band beam all on the same tower, and they sure do look nice up there. Boy oh Boy, with that 4-400 final, he should really poke out a nice signal. With all the power that is on on the North side now, what

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chance have us little low power boys got. Think I'll move.

Pierre

Jane swept into the office with a mink coat draped casually over her arm.

"Dearie," asked Mable, "how did you ever get such a gorgeous mink? I've been struggling for years to get one."

"Honey," replied Jane, "you mustn't struggle—ever."

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